

13 January 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: National Intelligence Officer for Warning
FROM: Director of Central Intelligence
SUBJECT: Responsibility for Warning

1. I very much appreciate your paper on the DCI's warning responsibilities. Why was the 24-hour watch dropped? Does the idea of the national command center cover that or what?

2. What is the relationship between the monthly warning meetings and the weekly watch committee? What role does the NIO/Warning have on the watch committee? I think I'd feel more comfortable if NIO/Warning was involved in all of these activities.

3. Should DCID 6/1 be amended or superseded to reflect the operations of the weekly watch committee? See my note on page 7. There are a few other notes on the other pages, mostly questions as I suggest something to you.

4. The last paragraph on page 16 is the important one. The DCI should have a vehicle for registering his warnings, whether it is a weekly letter bringing out particularly important things in the watch committee report or whatever. We established a weekly watch committee to get a regular review, more frequently than the monthly warning meetings, to reduce the risk that important dangers would slip off the radar screen, [redacted]

[redacted] We need something to force action, i.e., a requirement to evaluate the weekly watch committee report, the items in the previous week's PDB, or whatever, to identify those developments that are sufficiently important and imminent, to rub the noses of the top policymakers in them.

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William J. Casey

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